UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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IN THE MATTER OF:

Petrochem Recycling Corp. /Ekotek, Inc. Site Salt Lake City, Utah

Proceeding under Section 122(g)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(g)(4)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON CONSENT

DE MINIMIS SETTLEMENT

U.S. EPA Docket No .: CERCLA-VIII-94-27

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

I. JURISDICTION

This Administrative Order on Consent ("Consent Order") is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the President of the United States by Section 122(g)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 ("CERCLA"), Pub. L. No. 99-499, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(g)(4), to reach settlements in actions under Section 106(a) or 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606(a) or 9607(a). The authority vested in the President has been delegated to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Executive Order 12580, 52 Fed. Reg. 2923 (Jan. 29, 1987), and further delegated to the Regional Administrators of the EPA by EPA Delegation No. 14-14-E (issued September 13, 1987, modified by memorandum of June 17, 1988). This authority has been further delegated to the Director, Hazardous Waste Management Division, EPA Region VIII.

This Administrative Order on Consent is issued to Respondents identified in Appendix A hereto. Each Respondent agrees to undertake all actions required by the terms and conditions of this Consent Order. Each Respondent further consents to and will not contest EPA's jurisdiction to issue this Consent Order or to implement or enforce its terms.

II. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Consent Order which are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning(s) assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Consent Order or in the Appendix attached hereto and incorporated hereunder, the following definitions shall apply:

"Base Amount" shall mean the product of the Respondent's volumetric contribution of Waste Material to the Site (as identified in Appendix A) and \$2.97, the per gallon dollar amount. The per gallon dollar amount was computed by dividing the Remediation Cost by the Total Volume of Waste Material at the Site.

"CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675.

"Consent Order" or "Order" shall mean this Order and all appendices and attachments hereto. In the event of conflict between this Order and any appendix or attachment, this Order shall control.

"Day" shall mean a calendar day unless expressly stated otherwise. "Working day" shall mean a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday. In computing any period of time under this Consent Order where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

"EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments or agencies of the United States.

"Future Response Costs" shall mean, for purposes of this settlement, all response costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States or any other person incurs at or in connection with the Site after November 12, 1993.

"National Contingency Plan" or "NCP" shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, et seq., including but not limited to, any amendments thereto.

"Operation and Maintenance" or "O & M" shall mean all activities required to operate and maintain the effectiveness of the remedial action.

"Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Consent Order identified by an arabic numeral.

"Fast Response Costs" shall mean, for purposes of this settlement, all response costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs that the United States or any other person incurred in connection with the Site prior to and including November 12, 1993.

"RCRA" shall mean the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901, et seq., also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

"Remediation Cost" shall mean the estimated total dollar amount for all response actions at the Site used for this settlement, including, but not limited to, the cost of remedial action, Past Response Costs, Future Response Costs, and Operation and Maintenance Costs. The Remediation Cost is \$69,594,403.

"Respondents" shall mean those entities identified in Appendix A, which is incorporated herein by reference.

"Section" shall mean a portion of this Consent Order identified by a roman numeral.

"Settlement Amount" is the total amount each Respondent is obligated to pay, as identified in Appendix A to this Consent Order.

"Site" or "Petrochem/Ekotek Site" shall mean the Petrochem Recycling Corp./Ekotek, Inc. Site, as defined in Section III, Paragraph 1 of this Order.

"Total Volume of Waste Material" shall mean the estimated cumulative amount of Waste Material disposed of at the Site, used for this settlement. The Total Volume of Waste Material is 23,454,592 gallons.

"United States" shall mean the United States of America, including its agencies, departments, and instrumentalities.

"Waste Material" shall mean materials constituting or containing (1) any hazardous substance as defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), or (2) any pollutant or contaminant under Section 101(33), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33).

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS

The following paragraphs present the factual determinations made by EPA in support of this Order. Respondents neither admit nor deny them.

- 1. The Petrochem/Ekotek Site is the area listed on the National Priorities List promulgated on October 14, 1992, 57 Fed. Reg. 47180, 47200 (October 14, 1992), as that area has been defined therein and as may be expanded by the United States from time to time. The Site, which includes the areal extent of contamination, is located at 1628 North Chicago Street, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah. The Site is presently owned by the Ekotek, Inc., bankruptcy estate and encompasses approximately 6.6 acres.
- 2. From 1953 to 1968, the Site was owned and operated as a refinery by O.C. Allen Oil Company. In 1968, Flinco, Inc., purchased the facility and operated the refinery until 1978.

 During that time, Flinco changed its name to Bonus International Corporation. In 1978, the property changed ownership to Axel Johnson, Inc. (AJI), and was operated as a hazardous waste storage and treatment facility and as a waste oil recycling facility through AJI's subsidiary, Ekotek, Inc., a Delaware corporation. In 1981, the facility again changed ownership but reincorporated as Ekotek, Inc., a Utah corporation. After Ekotek, Inc., declared bankruptcy in November, 1987, Petrochem Recycling Corporation leased the facility from Ekotek, Inc., and continued operations until February 1988. Operations ceased

after the State of Utah issued Petrochem Recycling a Notice of Violation.

- Hazardous substances within the definition of Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), have been or are threatened to be released into the environment at or from the Site. Sources of contamination at the Site have included approximately 60 tanks, 1,200 drums, and 1,500 smaller containers, three surface impoundments, an underground drainfield, numerous piles and pits of waste material, underground tanks, incineration furnaces, and contaminated soils. Contaminants associated with these on-site sources include heavy metals, chlorinated solvents and other volatile organic compounds, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, pesticides, PCBs (Aroclor 1260), dioxin, and furans. Numerous compounds have been detected in the groundwater on-site. The groundwater is hydraulically connected to the underlying aquifers of the Salt Lake Valley which provide drinking water to an estimated 27,000 In the past, EPA has detected 2-Methylnaphthalene, among other compounds, in releases to the atmosphere at the Site which could pose a threat to people living within 1 mile of the Site. Endangered species, including the peregrine falcon, have been observed within 2 miles of the Site.
- 4. As a result of the release or threatened release of hazardous substances into the environment at or from the Site, EPA has undertaken response actions at the Site under Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604, and will undertake response actions in the future. EPA has entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for the performance of a Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Site. Completion of the RI/FS and issuance of a Site-wide Record of Decision ("ROD") is not expected until 1995.
- 5. In performing these response actions, EPA has incurred and will continue to incur response costs at or in connection with the Site. As of July 31, 1993, EPA had incurred approximately \$3,480,952. (This figure is calculated for purposes of this settlement only.)
 - 6. Information currently known to EPA indicates that:
- a. Each Respondent listed on Appendix A to this Consent Order arranged for disposal or treatment, or arranged with a transporter for disposal or treatment, of Waste Material owned or possessed by such Respondent at the Site, or accepted Waste Material for transport to the Site;
- b. The amount of Waste Material contributed to the Site by each Respondent individually is equal to or less than 100,000 gallons and does not exceed 0.5% of the hazardous substances at the Site; and the hazardous substances contributed

by each Respondent to the Site are not significantly more toxic or of significantly greater hazardous effect than other hazardous substances at the Site.

- c. EPA and the Respondents (collectively referred to as the "Parties") agree that settlement of this case without litigation and without the admission or adjudication of any issue of fact or law is the most appropriate means of resolving this action.
 - 7. In evaluating the settlement embodied in this Consent Order, EPA has considered the potential costs of remediating the contamination at or in connection with the Site taking into account possible cost overruns.
 - 8. Payments required to be made by each Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order are a minor portion of the total response costs at the Site which EPA, based upon currently available information, estimates, for purposes of this settlement, to be \$69,594,403.
 - 9. EPA has identified persons other than the Respondents who owned or operated the Site, or who arranged for disposal or treatment, or arranged with a transporter for disposal or treatment, of Waste Material owned or possessed by such a person at the Site, or who accepted Waste Material for transport to the Site. EPA has considered the nature of its case against these non-settling parties in evaluating the settlement embodied in this Consent Order.

IV. DETERMINATIONS

Based upon the Statement of Facts set forth above and on the administrative record for the Settlement, EPA has determined that:

- 1. The Petrochem/Ekotek Site is a "facility" as that term is defined in Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9).
- 2. Each Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined in Section 101/21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21).
- 3. Each Respondent is a potentially responsible party within the meaning of Sections 107(a) and 122(g)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607(a) and 9622(g)(1).
- 4. There has been an actual or threatened "release" of a hazardous substance at or from the Site, as that term is defined in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22).

- 5. Prompt settlement with each of the Respondents is practicable and in the public interest within the meaning of Section 122(g)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(g)(1).
- 6. The amount of hazardous substances contributed to the Site by each Respondent and the toxic or other hazardous effects of the hazardous substances contributed to the Site by each Respondent are minimal in comparison to other hazardous substances at the Site pursuant to Section 122(g)(1)(A) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(g)(1)(A).
- 7. The settlement embodied in this Consent Order is fair, reasonable, and consistent with CERCLA.

V. ORDER

Based upon the administrative record for this Settlement and the Statement of Facts and Determinations set forth above, and in consideration of the promises and covenants set forth herein, it is hereby AGREED TO AND ORDERED:

PAYMENT

Each Respondent shall refer to Appendix A to this Order for such Respondent's Settlement Amount. EPA has determined that the Respondents cannot afford EPA's least expensive <u>de minimis</u> settlement option offered to <u>de minimis</u> parties at the Site; that is, the "Option A" settlement. Option A settlement includes a 30% premium over and above the Base Amount and a cost reopener if response costs at the Site exceed the Remediation Cost. Thus, although the Settlement Amount for each Respondent is based on an "Option A" settlement, the amount has been reduced to the maximum amount EPA has determined each Respondent is able to pay. Each Respondent's Settlement Amount is equal to Respondent's Base Amount times a multiplier of 1.30 (to incorporate the 30% premium), minus an adjustment reflecting EPA's determination that the Respondent is unable to pay the full Settlement Amount, referred to herein as the "Inability-to-Pay factor."

Paragraph 2 is amended as follows:

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2. Payment of the settlement amount shall be made in three equal installments of 64,333.33 each plus 5.63% interest on the second and third installments. Payment of \$64,333.33 Shall be due to payable within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Consent Order; payment of \$66,144.32 for the second installment Shall be due to payable within 120 days of the effective date of 3. All payments made by Respondents pursuant to

Section V, Paragraph 2 of this Order, including any interest thereon that may be due and payable pursuant to Section V, Paragraph 5 of this Order, shall be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund." Payments must be designated as "Response Costs-

Taragraph 2 cont.)

the Consent Order; payment of the third and final installment of \$666,144.32 shall be due +payable within 210 days of the effective date of the Consent order. In the event any payment required by Respondent by this paragraph, as amended, is not made within the time period specified, such Respondent shall pay the accrued interest on the unpaid balance in accordance with section I, payagraph 5, of this order.

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Petrochem/Ekotek De Minimis Settlement, Docket No.: CERCLA-VIII-94-27, Site No. F3, (Utah) and shall be sent to:

United States Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII P.O. Box 360859M Pittsburgh, PA 15251 Attn: Superfund Accounting

with a copy sent simultaneously to:

EPA Cost Recovery Program Manager Superfund Enforcement Section (8HWM-SR) United States Environmental Protection Agency 999 18th Street, Suite 500 Denver, Colorado 80202-2466

- 4. EPA may establish and maintain a site specific "special account" which shall be used solely for the purpose of receiving, managing, and disbursing funds, or portions thereof, received pursuant to this Consent Order for response activities at the Site, including oversight of such response activities. EPA shall maintain and have sole control over such special account. EPA in its sole discretion shall determine how and in what amounts funds shall be disbursed from the site specific special account. EPA in its sole discretion shall determine what proportion of moneys collected pursuant to this settlement shall be considered reimbursement of EPA's past response costs, as that term may be defined by EPA.
- Interest on all payments required by Section V, Paragraph 2 of this Order shall begin to accrue upon the effective date of this Consent Order, at the rate established pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). the event that any payment required of any Respondent by Section V, Paragraph 2 of this Order is not made within 30 days of the effective date of this Consent Order, such Respondent shall pay accrued interest on the unpaid balance. Interest on any payment required of any Respondent shall be compounded annually. October 1st of each subsequent fiscal year, any unpaid balance shall begin accruing interest at a new rate to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury. Interest shall accrue at the rate specified through the date of the Respondent's payment. Accrued interest on the amount set forth in Section V, Paragraph 2 of this Order, shall be paid to the Hazardous Substance Superfund. Payments of interest made under this Paragraph shall be in addition to any remedies or sanctions available to EPA by virtue of any Respondent's failure to make timely payments under this Section.
- 6. The total amount to be paid by each Respondent includes a payment for, among other things: a) Past Response

Costs incurred at or in connection with the Site; and b) projected Future Response Costs to be incurred at or in connection with the Site. Settlement Amounts paid by each Respondent under this Consent Order are not fines, penalties or monetary sanctions.

CIVIL PENALTIES

7. In addition to any other remedies or sanctions available to the EPA, including remedies specified in this Consent Order, any Respondent that fails or refuses to comply with any term or condition of this Consent Order shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$25,000 per day of such failure or refusal pursuant to section 122(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(1).

CERTIFICATION OF RESPONDENTS

- 8. Each Respondent hereby certifies individually that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, it has conducted a thorough, comprehensive, good faith search for documents and information and has fully and accurately disclosed to EPA all documents and information currently in its possession, or in the possession of its officers, directors, employees, contractors, or agents that relates in any way to the ownership, operation, generation, treatment, transportation, storage, or disposal of Waste Material at the Site, or to Respondent's ability to pay.
- 9. Each Respondent hereby certifies, individually, that it has fully complied to the best of its knowledge and belief with any and all EPA requests for documents and information, including requests for information relating to Respondent's ability to pay, pursuant to sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and section 3007 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6927. Provision of false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations to the United States may subject a Respondent to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.
- 10. Each Respondent hereby certifies, individually, that it has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed or otherwise disposed of any records, documents or other information relating to its potential liability regarding the Site, or its ability to pay, since notification of potential liability or the filing of a suit against Respondent regarding the Site.

COVENANT NOT TO SUE

11. In consideration of the payments that will be made by each Respondent under the terms of this Consent Order, and subject to the reservations of rights in Section V, Paragraphs 15 through 18 of this Consent Order, EPA covenants not to sue or to take any administrative action against each such Respondent pursuant to Sections 106(a) and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(a) and 9607(a), and Section 7003 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6973, relating to the Site. These covenants not to sue shall take effect with respect to each Respondent upon the receipt by EPA of the payment from that Respondent required by Section V, Paragraph 2, of this Consent Order.

- 12. This covenant not to sue is conditioned as to each Respondent upon the complete and satisfactory performance of all obligations of such Respondent under this Consent Order.
- not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States or its contractors and employees with respect to the Site or this Consent Order, including, but not limited to, any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund (established pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507), through Sections 106(b)(2), 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b)(2), 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law; or any claims arising out of response activities at the Site; or claims for any other costs, damages, or attorneys' fees from the United States with respect to the Site or this Consent Order. Nothing in this Consent Order shall be deemed to constitute preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. 300.700(d).
- 14. The covenant not to sue set forth in Section V, Paragraph 11 of this Order extends only to Respondents and does not extend to any other person.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

- 15. The covenant not to sue by EPA set forth in Section V, Paragraph 11, of this Order does not pertain to any matters other than those expressly specified in Paragraph 11. The United States, including EPA, reserves, and this Consent Order is without prejudice to, all rights against Respondents with respect to all other matters, including but not limited to the following:
- a. Claims based on failure to make the payments required by Section V, Paragraph 2 of this Consent Order;
- b. Any liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources;
 - c. Criminal liability; or
- d. Liability arising from the past, present or future disposal, release or threat of release of Waste Material

outside the Site as defined in Section III, Paragraph 1 of this Consent Order.

- 16. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Consent Order, the United States, including EPA, reserves, and this Consent Order is without prejudice to, the right to institute judicial proceedings or to issue an administrative order seeking to compel any Respondent (1) to perform response actions relating to the Site, or (2) to reimburse the United States, including EPA, for additional costs of response if:
- a. information not contained in EPA's administrative site file as of the effective date of this Consent Order is discovered which indicates that such Respondent contributed Waste Material to the Site in an amount greater than the sum of the amount listed for that Respondent in Appendix A of this Consent Order plus 10,000 gallons; or
- b. information not contained in EPA's administrative site file as of the effective date of this Consent Order is discovered which indicates that such Respondent contributed Waste Material to the Site in an amount greater than 100,000 gallons, or which indicates that such Respondent contributed hazardous substances which are significantly more toxic or are of significantly greater hazardous effect than other hazardous substances at the Site; or
- c. information is discovered which indicates that such Respondent did not fully and accurately disclose all financial information and documents in response to any and all EPA requests for information and documents relating to Respondent's ability to pay, pursuant to sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and section 3007 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6927; or
- d. response costs incurred at or in connection with the Site exceed \$69,594,403, the Remediation Cost for the Site.
- 17. Except as provided in Section V, Paragraph 11 of this Order, nothing in this Consent Order is intended as a release or covenant not to sue for any claim or cause of action, administrative or judicial, civil or criminal, past or future, in law or equity, which the United States may have against any person, firm, corporation or other entity not a signatory to this Consent Order.
- 18. EPA and the Respondents agree that actions undertaken by the Respondents in accordance with this Consent Order do not constitute an admission of any liability by any Respondent. The Respondents do not admit and retain the right to

controvert in any subsequent proceedings, other than proceedings to implement or enforce this Consent Order, the validity of the Statement of Facts or Determinations contained in this Consent Order.

EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT; CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

- 19. Nothing in this Consent Order shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a party to this Consent Order. The United States, including EPA, and the Settling Parties hereto each expressly reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, any right of contribution), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which each Party may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a party hereto.
- 20. With regard to claims for contribution against Respondents for matters addressed in this Consent Order, the Parties hereto agree that the Respondents are entitled, as of the effective date of this Consent Order, to such protection from contribution actions or claims as is provided by Sections 113(f)(2), 113(g)(3), and 122(g)(5) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(f)(2), 9613(g)(3), and 9622(g)(5). Such protection with respect to each Respondent is conditioned upon that Respondent's compliance with the requirements of this Consent Order.
- 21. Each Respondent agrees not to contest or otherwise challenge in any way EPA's selection and implementation of the Record(s) of Decision (ROD(s)) or other response action(s) at the Site.

PARTIES BOUND

22. This Consent Order shall apply to and be binding upon EPA, and upon each of the Respondents, and Respondents' officers, directors, employees, agents, heirs, successors, and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate or governmental status of a Respondent including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property shall in no way alter such Respondent's responsibilities under this Consent Order. Each signatory for a Respondent to this Consent Order represents that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Order and to bind legally the Respondent represented by him or her.

PUBLIC COMMENT

23. This Consent Order shall be subject to a thirty-day public comment period, pursuant to Section 122(i) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(i). In accordance with Section 122(i)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(i)(3), EPA may withdraw or modify

consent to this Consent Order if during public comment, comments received disclose facts or considerations which indicate this Consent Order is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. In addition, EPA may choose to make this Consent Order effective as to some Respondents and not as to others if comments or information is received before the Consent Order's effective date which indicate this Consent Order is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate as to one or more of the Respondents, but not as to all

EFFECTIVE DATE

24. The effective date of this Consent Order shall be the date upon which EPA issues written notice to the Respondents that the public comment period pursuant to Section V, Paragraph 23 of this Order has closed and that comments received, if any, do not require modification or withdrawal by EPA.

COUNTERPARTS

25. This Consent Order may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered to EPA shall be deemed to be an original, but such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same document.

IT IS SO AGREED AND ORDERED:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Robert L. Duprey, Director Hazardous Waste Management Division

/*U/E) 7.4* [Date]

Kespondent:

Appendix A

LIST OF SETTLEMENT AMOUNTS

The Settlement Amount for each Respondent is calculated as

\$2.97/gal. x (Vol. of Respondent's Waste Material) = Base Amount

[Base Amount x 1.3] - (Inability-to-Pay factor) = Settlement

lesa Oil Inc.

91,904

Volume of () Base Amount Inability-to-Waste Material X 1:1 F 354 749 44 \$ 161, 749.44

Amount \$193,000.00

3 installment fayments; 5:63 interest rate on 2nd 13rd installment payments -See Section VI Paragraph 2, of this order